

Remarks/Arguments

The title has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's requirement. Applicants are open to further suggestions by the Examiner if such are desired by the Examiner.

As to the Examiner's comments as to a possible double patenting holding, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 3 are not substantial duplicates. Claim 1 recites the first portion (15a, 25a, 75a) as extending outward from the one-side surface (31b) of the insulator (31) so as to be substantially parallel to the one surface (40a) of the board (40), when the insulator is mounted on the one surface (40a) of the board (40).

In claim 3, the first portion (115a, 125a, 175a) is recited as extending outward from the one-side surface (131b) of the insulator so as to approach the one surface (140a) of the board when the insulator (31) is mounted on the one surface (40a) of the board (40), please note that the first portion (115a, 125a, 175a) is not parallel to the one surface (40a) of the board (40).

Therefore, claim 1 and 3 are different from each other and are not duplicates.

As to independent claims 1, 3, 7 and 12, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Soga et al or as being

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes a change in Fig. 15 to amend "B2" to --B1--. This sheet replaces the original sheet including FIG. 15.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet showing changes

unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Soga et al in view of Saito is respectfully traversed.

As now amended, the claims make it explicit that the third portion (15c, 25c, 75c, 115c, 125c, 175c) is bent using, as a fulcrum (B1, B2, B3), a joining portion between the first and third portions (15a, 25a, 75a, 15c, 25c, 75c) so as to be inclined away from the one surface (40a) of the board (40) in a direction from the fulcrum (B1, B2, B3) at the joining portion between the first and third portions (15a, 25a, 75a, 15c, 25c, 75c) toward the fulcrum (A1, A2, A3) at the joining portion between the second and third portions when the insulator is mounted on the one surface of the board. In other words, the third portion is inclined relative to the one surface of the board.

Soga et al. disclose a connector comprising an insulator (30a, 30b) to be mounted on one surface of a board (40). The insulator (FIG. 2) and a contact (14) including a terminal portion (FIG. 2), wherein the terminal portion comprises a first portion (FIG. 2), a second portion (18b), and a third portion (18c). The second portion is bent using a joining portion between the second and third portions as a fulcrum (22b), and the third portion is bent using, as a fulcrum (22a), a joining portion between the first and third portions so as to be away from the one surface of the board in a direction from the fulcrum

at the joining portion between the first and third portions toward the fulcrum at the joining portion between the second and third portions when the insulator is mounted on the one surface of the board.

However, the third portion (18c) is **not inclined** relative to the one surface of the board. More particularly, the third portion (18c) consists of a portion **parallel** to the board and another portion perpendicular to the board.

Therefore, claims 1-5 are respectfully submitted not to be anticipated by Soga et al.

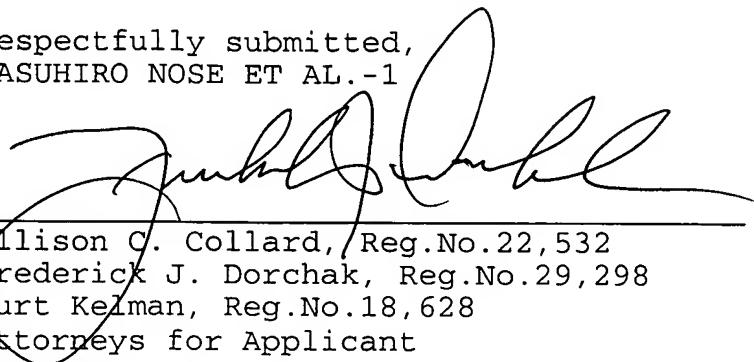
Saito discloses two bending tools (51, 52) used to bend at fulcrums three portions of a contact (FIGS. 5 and 6). However, Saito does not disclose a terminal portion having a portion inclined relative to the board. Therefore, claims 7-9, 12, 14-15, and 18 are respectfully submitted not to be patentable over Soga et al. in view of Saito.

A minor error has been corrected in Fig. 15.

The allowability of claims 6, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17 and 19 has been gratefully noted but these claims have not been rewritten in independent form at this time in view of the arguments for the patentability of the claims whereon they depend.

A sincere effort having been made to overcome all grounds of rejection, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-19 are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: Appendix - Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet showing changes

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 17, 2004.



Maria Guastella